

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

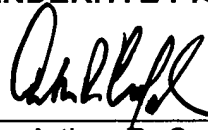
The above amendments are to insert a cross-reference to the PCT application upon which this National Phase application is based, and to cancel claims 2-55, without prejudice or disclaimer, in order to eliminate improper and proper multiple dependencies and thus reduce the filing fees. In addition, the Abstract is presented on a separate sheet attached to this amendment.

Applicants await an early action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Arthur R. Crawford  
Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:lfm  
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100